



**“The reality is that the best defense against terrorism is an offense.” *President Bush***

**Joint Rear Area Coordinator-Hawaii (JRAC-HI)**

**– The Military Role –**



## HOMELAND SECURITY AND THE JOINT REAR AREA COORDINATOR-HAWAII (JRAC-HI)

**After the September 11th terrorist attacks** in New York City and Washington, D.C., it became apparent to the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) that the armed forces needed to protect installations and critical infrastructure to ensure the military's ability to perform its mission. Protecting military assets in America is not a new concept, however there is a focused shift from traditional "front lines", which were normally outside U.S. borders. In military terms, now our nation is considered the "rear area." Protecting the United States in this context is a relatively new concept but one that can no longer be ignored.

**Soon after the World Trade Center** and Pentagon incidents, the Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Command appointed the Commander, U.S. Army, Pacific as the Joint Rear Area Coordinator for Hawaii, or "JRAC-HI." In this position, the new JRAC-HI is responsible for ensuring the close coordination of Homeland Defense efforts with all the armed forces in Hawaii as well as with local, state and federal civilian agencies in defense of critical military resources and in its support to civil authorities.

**The JRAC-HI concept involves** organizing all military facilities and infrastructure in Hawaii into "Base Clusters" to facilitate planning, prioritization of efforts, and coordination with civilian agencies. Each Base Cluster has a designated Base Cluster Commander. The Air Force Base Cluster is headquartered at Hickam Air Force Base, the Army at Schofield Barracks, the Navy at Pearl Harbor, the Marines at Kaneohe Bay Marine Corps Base, and the Coast Guard at Honolulu Harbor. A joint-interagency intelligence support element has also been established to provide daily intelligence support to the JRAC-HI, Base Cluster Commanders, and to local, state and federal agencies.

**The JRAC-HI has no civil law enforcement authority.** If an incident or attack takes place in the civilian community, the appropriate state and local emergency service agencies will be the first responders and will retain primary responsibility to protect the residents of Hawaii. The military will continue to stand ready, however, to provide emergency assistance as it always has through the Military Support to Civilian Authorities (MSCA) program.

# JRAC-HI FACTS

- **The Department of Defense's** first priority is to protect its ability to act in the nation's defense. Military forces in Hawaii are protecting key defense facilities and coordinating with proper civil authorities to ensure protection of enabling civilian infrastructure to the military in Hawaii. This protection currently calls for restricted access to military bases, not to isolate the military, but rather to protect its capabilities.
- **JRAC-HI is coordinating** its actions with the State Adjutant General and other state and local authorities as it works to identify key linkages needed to ensure success.
- **DOD forces will provide** support to civilian authorities as authorized.
- **The community can assist** by reporting suspicious behavior to the local police.
- **The community should remain alert**, but not alarmist. Defeating this unprecedented threat to America and to Hawaii will take the full cooperation of everyone.
- **JRAC-HI has established** a series of joint training exercises intended to hone the skills of airmen, soldiers, sailors and Marines working together to deal with terrorist threats facing the U.S. This training also integrates our military forces with local, state and federal agencies.
- **The JRAC concept has been employed** in Hawaii for over a year, but planning and training efforts became very focused after the September 11th terrorist attacks in Washington D.C. and New York.

## What Each of Us **MUST DO**

- Know your enemy; trust that he thinks he knows us
- Report suspicious activity; outsmart threats
- Stay informed, not entertained
- Live alert, not alarmed
- Prepare yourself and family for more bad news
- Stay rooted in traditions, and people oriented
- Stay productively busy; get neighbor and neighborhood oriented again.

## What Each of Us **MUST NOT DO**

- Live in fear
- Develop an “under siege” mindset or lifestyle
- Become suspicious of everything around us
- Target others through “over-generalized profiling”
- Lose our humanity or civility
- Give up hope

### **Important Phone Numbers**

Honolulu Police Department: (808) 225-5473  
Federal Bureau of Investigation: (808) 566-4300  
State of Hawaii Department of Health: (808) 586-4580

Headquarters, United States Army Pacific  
Office of the Chief of Public Affairs  
(808) 438-9375  
[www.usarpac.army.mil](http://www.usarpac.army.mil)